## NEW YORK HERALD

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.-THE

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.-HANCOT. WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.-CLA

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway .- THE ST NEW BOWERY THEATRE, B.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.-CH

New York, Thursday, January 5, 1865

THE SITUATION. have been sent to Nashville, and all preparanade for an active campaign. It is said that new

see, and they are getting over their exclusive ers and soldiers. On the 28th of De they will have a continuance of the war or give of allegiance. The Third division of the Twee ment of Wheeler's cavalry. No other rebel force was

ay, to take charge, on behalf of the of the cotton captured in that city by the General Sherman, Colonel Julian Alle on Council of Savannah, with the per-

About one hundred and fifty officers from Ge m's army, including several generals, arrived here ay on board the steamship Fulton, from Port

We give to-day a complete history of the great Dutch nal, accompanied by a map and diagrams, show work. The canal was commenced in August last, and up to the day of the explosion of the bulkhead eight regi of white and colored troops were detailed for soial work, averaging from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and forty men employed daily on e of sen hours. The canal is five hundred and two feet long, and the greatest width of excavate one hundred and twenty-two feet, and depth forty-five feet. The width of the is sixty-six feet at the top ty-five feet at the bottom! At high water the be a death of sixteen feet. From these facts may be formed of the immensity of Supposing that the canal, in the heavy batteries bearing upon be completed at present, the work, as far enterprise which, when it shall be completed, will always be of incalculable importance to the interests of Richmond. The explosion of the bulkhead of the canal on the lat inst, was witnessed by a large number of officers, and a strong body of troops or arms to be ready for amergancies

One of our correspondents has furnished us out complete and interesting account of the recent imraid through East Tennessee and Southwester da of Generals Stoneman, Burbridge and Gillem We have already from time to time give petobes and Items regarding the ions of this expedition. The injury robably irreparable. The lead mines and sait works, indrice and furnaces, one hundred miles of raiload, fifteen locomotives, two hundred cars, and a vast mount of other property of the rebels were destroyed, and twenty pieces of artillery and many prisoners were

aptured from them The decision of the Camadian court in the case of the carrested St. Albans raiders is expected to be given in few days, when it is supposed that they will be scharged on the point now raised. In that event her are to submit to a trial on the merits of the case. at a meeting of the Montreal Common Council on Tuesav night a resolution was adopted censuring Chief of lice Lamothe for his conduct in connection with the

siders, and accepting his resignation. Tue Richmond Examiner and the Sentinel have re ently been discreeing the question whether it would be etter for the rebels to submit to the national authorities f the United States or to become subjects of some strong bropean Power. The Examiner says that the Sentinel's reposition to claim the protection of England or France

riginated with Jeff. Davis, and had its birth in a pa

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The Bank of Fre

ultime at the advance experienced during the week.
Breadstuffs were firm at a slight advance. Provisions
were dull. All the markets were closed from the 24th to
the 27th of December on account of the Christmas holi-

In the Senate of our State Legislature yesterday among the bills noticed were the following:—For aid to the families of soldiers and sailors; to incorporate a paid Fire Department in New York; to prevent encroachments in the harbor of New York and for the completion of the Battery extension, and to amend the charter of the city of Brooklyn. A bill was introduced to provide for filling the courte of the State by parting a State bount of the he quota of the State by paying a State bounty of a two and one year men, local bounties being prohibited.

In the Assembly yesterday several bills were notice among which will be found a bill to amend the Soldier law; for a railroad in avenue C and other street in New York; also to alter the map and plan of New York. A bill was introduced to provide for the payment of the State bounty to volunteers; also authorizing bank

## WISCRITANEOUS NEWS

The steamship Costa Rica, which arrived here yester-day from Aspinwall on the 26th of December, brought us interesting despatches from our correspondents at Panama and Lima. The Costa Rica's specie list amounts tabout one million one hundred and fifty thousand do lars. The trouble between Spain and Peru was still un settled; but war had not yet commenced. The differen South American governments appeared to be watching and awaiting the action of each other and of the Con-gress of Republics at Lima, undecided what course exactly to take in reference to the menscing and dictatoria position assumed by Spain. There is little of importance by this arrival from the Isthmus or Central America.

At a meeting yesterday of the Volunteering Commit

At a meeting yescular, of our Board of Supervisors a preamble and resolution were adopted, declaring it unnecessary at present, as but three thousand five hundred men are required to fill our dollars bounty to volunteers, as proposed at a previous meeting. The old bounties of three hundred dollars t recruits for three years, two hundred dollars to those for two years, and one hundred dollars to one year men, with the respective with the respective sums of fifty, thirty and twenty dol lars hand money, are therefore all that will be paid, un less it is found that the required number of volunteer

mnot be raised without increasing the payr. We have dates from Turk's Islands to the About thirty-one thousand bushels of salt have behipped from the different ports of the colony du they have about seventy thousand bushels, which, added to that at Salt Cay, will be about equal to the quantity on hand at this Cay. Each month, so far, since our season closed, we have had heavy rains. Should these continue the next three months the coming season will be a very late one, and with the ordinary demand all now on hand will have been shipped before another bushel can be gathered. Last sales, fourteen conts.

The seven rebel pirates who were arrested on board the steamer Salvador, off Panama, in November last, by our naval forces in the Pacific, and permission to trans-port whom across the Isthmus was refused by the Gra-nadian authorities, arrived at San Francisco a few day

Fort Alcatrax.

The lovers of sleighing in this city and the vicini have been considerably flavored during the past three of four weeks. Though we have bad no very heavy fall of snow, we have had several of them, attenting a fai quantity of that kind of sport which is enjoyed on run ners. On Tuesday night we had another snow storn the fleecy deposit of which, added to that previously o the ground, made excellent sleighing in the less travel of our streets and the suburbs yesterday. In the Pari and on all the roads leading out of town it was very fine and there were incessant jinglings of bells and interm nable streams of sleighs dashing in all directions.

Tuesday night's snow storm prevented skating yes day on the Park lake and most of the pends around city. On the Fifth avenue pond, however, there was very good skating. The coy surface on nearly all the fa-vorite resorts of the skaters was last night cleared off, and there are therefore good prospects for a full enjoy

ment of the sport to-day. Armstrong, Emma and Vixon, recently captured while attempting to violate the blockade of Wilmington, were intered yesterday in the United States District Court by

the United States District Attorney.

The two houses of Congress will reassemble to-day after a vacation of two weeks, having adjourned over from the 22d of December to the 5th of January.

Yesterday was the fourteenth day of the Opdyke Weed libel suit. The summing up of counsel, however was not reached, as had been expected, the taking of testimony still occupying the court. A number of wit nesses were examined. It was agreed, though, that the summing up should commence on the opening of the court this morning, at ten o'clock.

The January term of the Court of General Ser opened, City Judge Russel presiding. Assistant District Attorney Hutchings conducts the prosecution. The Grand Jury were sworn in, Mr. Charles H. Hasy ing been selected as foreman. They were briefly charged by the City Judge upon the usual topics. Wm. Frains who stole twenty-eight dollars from Frederick Koff, or 122 Third avenue, on the 17th of \*October, pleaded guilt to petty larceny. As he had been in prison three month judgment was suspended. Isaac H. Williams, a colored boy, who stole a diamond pin worth three bundred and fifty dollars, the property of Adolph Kohn, of No. 150 the House of Refuge.

We have received, but are unable to publish this morn ing, owing to the great pressure of news on our columns, the report for the year 1884 of the Metropolitan Police Commissioners to the Covernor of the State. This paper is repiete with interesting and important statements, showing, as it does, the yearly statistics of crime force during the year, for cases of violence of a seriou acter, seven hundred and forty-two persons. these forty-eight were for murder, ten for manslaughter, four hundred and sixty-two for felonious assaults, thirty for threatening to take life, and thirty four for rape.

A fire broke out about about six o'clock yesterday

There was a riot in the parish of Chateau Richer, Montmorenei county, Canada, about affect miles from Quebec, on Friday last, owing to the people recisting the draft for militia service. A military force was sent from Quebec on arrival there of intelligence of the disturb-

O. Milton Allon, cashler in the Philadelphia Cus Iouse, yesterday had a preliminary hearing on harge of being implicated in the recent robbery

restorday, as compared with the preceding day; but it is worthy of remark, that there is more looking around than usual, and more indications of an increase ness at an early day than have been the case for time. The markets were generally quiet, but aim variably firm, not to say buoyant. On 'Change to market was more setive and 10c. higher. Wh vanced 2c. a &c., with more doing. Corn and cats ruled quiet at previous rates. The pork market opened firmer and active, but closed dull and heavy. Beef was without change, the demand being moderate. Lard Whiskey a shade firmer. Freights dull and

The Closing Scenes of the Rebellion-The Curtain Partially Lifted.

The military combinations of General Grant have been so far developed by actual events that it needs no expert now in strategy to comprehend his grand design. It is the concentraion on every side of such an array of forces against the doomed city of Richmond and the army of Lee as will make sure and decisive work, whether the despairing enemy may elect to await the shock or endeavor to avoid it in a stealthy evacuation.

If the military communications between Rich mond and the interior of Georgia were not cut off-if there were any guarantees of safety in the interior of South Carolina—we dare say that Davis would now retreat in that direction for the purpose of a stubborn campaign in the cotton States. But Sherman heads him off in that direction, while Thomas is master in the West, and Sheridan has made the Shenandoah valley untenable to a rebel army. From the imperious ne of his case it is probable that General Lee will be compelled to risk a struggle for the main-tenance of his position at Richmond, which will bring the war to an end with the capture of the city, and the destruction or dis and dissolution of his army. Davis and his confederacy are now reduced to the army of Lee, and there can be but one result when that army is brought to the test of an unavoidable sources of Grant. The issue will inevitably be as fatal to Jeff. Davis as was the battle of Pharsalia to Pompey, of Actium to Mark Antony, or of Leipsic or Waterloo to Napoleon.

Nor can reasoning men doubt any longer that this final catastrophe to the so-called "Confederate States" is near at hand. Sherman, if called for, may move at once by sea for Richmond; or be may strike for Charleston; or, turning back upon Augusta, he may deliberately clean up South and North Carolina, en route to the James river. There is nothing in his way to prevent him. The im provised and tregular army of Hardee, fifteen or twenty thousand strong, can do nothing if it could not hold the almost unapproachable city of Savannah against Sherman's fifty thousan victorious veterans. Nor does there appear to be any possibility that Hood, with the shattered remnants of his late formidable army, can now or hereafter do anything better than to look out for his own safety to the end of the war. The army which held Sherman so long at bay, from point to point in Georgia, has ceased to exist; and, between Sherman and Thomas, General Grant, as against Lee, is stronger to-day by one

hundred thousand veteran soldiers than he wa six months ago. The rebel leaders at Richmond compreher all this, and have a keen perception of what is impending. They are beginning to talk again of the desperate expedient of carrying the war into the North, of the general arming and liberation of their slaves, and of sweeping conscriptions over States which have already been swept clean of able-bodied white men and boys. But in the depths of their despair, it is reported, they are at last beginning to talk of providing for the total abolition of slavery, and such commercial reciprocities as would make then the meanest dependents of England, in order to secure from her the recognition of their South-ern confederacy. In the first, or second, or perhaps even in the third year of the war, such overtures to England and France would probably have resulted in a Holy Alliance on their part, offensive and defensive, with Davis. But now such equivalents as emancipation, free cotton and free trade will go begging, or, if accepted by England or France, or both, will come too late for the rescue of Davis or his confederacy.

Let us suppose that these tempting bribe for a recognition will go out to England by the next steamer from Nassau. Several month will necessarily elapse-even under the most favorable circumstances for Davis-before any positive assurance of European assistance can reach him. In the meantime he will be routed from his stronghold, his last army will be broken up and dispersed, and, headed off at Wilmington, he will, if not a prisoner, or lying among the dead to his last ditch, be a fugitive

in disguise on route for the pro

This is the cheering prospect which the by Sherman has revealed to phases of the military situation.

war will probably be finished within for war will probably be finished within four years from the bombardment of Port Sumter, in April, 1661; and we have not the shadow of a ubt that it surely will be so finished, roper efforts to strengthen at once by new roops the army immediately under the direcby Davis, as a last resort, one hundred th fresh troops for the Union armies in Janu

may be worth half a million in April.

We call, then, upon the authorities and the people of the loyal States to go to work now in overy way to all up their State quotas under the President's last call for soldiers, in order that the anniversary of the first bombardment of Fort Sumter may flawn upon the complete triumph of the Union arms.

in its leading columns, and in double-leaded pp, the Tribune of yesterday gives what proaccount of the attempt of old Blair and your Blair to get to Richmond as a peace embase There are as many different versions of it affair already as there were of the scene i Scandal. Whether the two Blairs ever wanted to go to Bichmond at all is at least doubtful All the surmises about their mission originates from the brief telegram reporting them visit to General Grant. They may have vi him, as they did once before, in order to ob his written promise not to run President. They may have visited him on the other hand, in order to get him to promise to run for President in 1868, under their direction. Our correspondent have the idea that the visit was merely pleasure. A correspondent of the Tribune sug gests that old Blair wanted to beg back some of the dangerous and delicate political corre pondence which Breckinridge stole during the last rebel raid. But in opposition to all this, our friend and protege, Greeley, who knows everything, or thinks he does, furnishes us with much more romantic history of the matter and makes it his base of operations for an attack upon Secretary Stanton, who came very near being Chief Justice instead of Chase. Greeley's story is that old Blair and young

Blair asked leave to go to Richmond and nego tiate a peace. President Lincoln, with his cus tomary diplomacy, told them that they might go if General Grant would pass them through his lines, but refused to give them any official character or written authorization. Nevertheless they started off, and reached City Point, where they were very hospitably received by the Lieutenant General. But in the meantime Stanton had sent a telegram to General Grant notifying him that the Biairs were totally un authorized to act in any official capacity, and hinting that he had better send them home. General Grant took the hint, and the Blair have returned with their mission u plished. Now, if this version of the affair be true, we quite approve of Secretary Stanto proceedings, and do not understand why Gree ley should attack him. Secretary Stanton is no the man to act rashly or unadvisedly, and it is fuite likely that Greeley will soon discoverif he has not discovered already—that in at tacking Stanton he is attacking President Lin ools. Our humorous and versatile President is one of the most accomplished diplomatists of the age. He has shown this by his dealings with the mission to France, and we have no than probable that, as soon as he had declined to give the Blairs an official sanction, and had seen them depart without it, he immediately stepped over to the War Department and dictated the telegram which Stanton sent to Grant a telegram informing Grant that the Blairs were unofficial ambahad better be stopped. This exquisite stroke of diplomacy was quite in President Lincoln's line of business. He has made such masterly movements before, and they have always been as successful as this. Accepting the Tribune's account as perfectly correct, therefore, we observe in the facts as stated another signal and convincing proof of Mr. Lincoln's diplomatic skill.

Our benevolent friend Greeley seems to be effected with a monomania for peace missions; but he cannot inoculate Mr. Lincoln with his ldess upon the subject. The President has at length been brought to a realizing sense of the absurdity of these amateur attempts to patch up a peace by going to Richmond. He rememhere how Colorado Jewett used to fulminate for peace, and how many letters that philosopher received from Queen Victoria, poor Greeley, Napoleon, Vallandigham, the Viceroy of Egypt, and George Sanders. He remembers the first peace missionary, whose name has escaped us, but who subsequently found peace in a penitentiary. He remembers the peace mission of Dr. Zacharie, the corn doctor, who carried his large nose and large diamond pin right into Richmond, and could make nothing peaceable out of Jeff. Davis, after all. He remembers the fiasco of the Rev. Colonel Jacques and Edmund Kirke Gilmore, who imposed themselves upon him as peace men, and went down to Richmond; but who afterwards turned out to be penny-a-liners, who had engaged in the missionary business as a mere magazine speculation. He remembers, too, the fuse be tween Greeley, Jake Thompson and Sanders at Niagara Falls, which was squashed by his little note addressed to whom it may concern. With these instances fresh in his memory, M. Lincoln has no reliah for any more amateur peace aegotiators. No matter in what form they present themselves, he regards them with suspicion. He knows that their only object is to gain notoriety and make the thing pay in some way or other. The diplomatist now in the penitentiary made it pay by forging orders on the Treasury. Colorado Jewett made it pay by disposing of his mining stock. Dr. Zacharie made it pay by cutting the corns of the rebels. Jacques and Gilmore made it pay by writing romanees for the magazines. Sanders has made it pay by organizing bands of burglars to rob the border banks and gangs of

intended to turn their mission to account are not informed. Perhaps they thought oredit of plucking the fruit. But in any even President Lincoln has blocked their little game He has learned, at last, that we can only gain peace by whipping the rebels; that our only acceptable terms are unconditional surrender, and that Grant, Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Farragut and Porter are our best missionaries, ambassadors and negotiators. So much for the

THE SOURME TO RESUME THE PAPER DU the price of paper to the general con that article, nor would the reduction of the that article, nor would the reduction of the duty have that effect as long as we can manufacture paper here as cheaply as they can in Burope. We have plenty of easterial and no want of enterprise to make all the paper we require; but with the currency at its present standard, of course the price is apparently higher than it was four years ago. We say apparently because, in fact, it holds the same relative value to the currency which it did as that

for a few radical republican editors and poli-ticians in the West a large slice out of the public treasury. Mr. Defrees, of Indians, the pub-lic printer, has laid a claim before Congress for damages which he alleges he is entitled to for losses on his contracts, in consequence of the advance in the price of paper caused in part by the import duty. To give effect to this claim it is that the claimer about the onerous tax is now raised by Mr. Defrees and his friends, and not to remove the duty for the general good of pub-lishers and editors. Let the miserable financial system which these radical editors have encouraged and upheld be changed to a healthy one, and the currency restored to a moderate value, and the price of paper will come down along with the price of everything else. We hope Congress will not be bamboosled by politicians into reducing the paper duty. It is essential to the existence of many of the republican journals that the price of paper should be reduced; for if it advances much more they will perish, and it is meet they should, for they have done all in their power to bring about the present unfortunate ition of the country, which has reduced the value of the national currency and put up the price of everything which the people con-

AN ARMY OF FIGHTERS AND AN ARMY OF WEITERS.—The intelligence of the American oldier has been so frequently exemplified during the present war as to become almost a proverb. But in no case have we seen it better illustrated than in the vast numbers of letters written by Sherman's army during their late noble and triumphant march through Georgia, from Atlanta to Savannah. It appears from the official records that on the 28th of December last the mail from Sherman's army brought two hundred and fifty thousand letters, and the mail yesterday by the Fulton consisted of nearly five hundred thousand letters from the same source. Thus do the sword and the pen go linked together wherever American soldiers carry their victorious banners.

## THE SOUTH.

The Richmond Papers on the Quest of Returning to the Union or Becom

Subjects of a European Power, dec. Washington, Jan. 4, 1866; The Richmond Engineer of the 2d inst, in roply to

Wakeman, Diokinson. Boyd & Hein Metropolii 

87.440

Walob Haven

ITAMEN OF SEA RUFFA.—The first performance of the season at Niblo's Saloon of the Italian, opera buffa did not draw a very large house last hight. The opera was Domizetti's L'Elieir d'Amors, the may it of which is as familiar as it is beautiful. As it is an opera which depend ifor its offect more upon the flow leading parts than upon the attractions of chorus, some ery, or other accessories, it is not to be expected by at a perfect success could be obtained by any but any interest of the first class. This enterprise of prescuting lieufan buffa at Niblo's, it must be remarked, is quite flow; in its inception, and hence, no doubt, arose the last, orfections which were evident in the first performance; the timidity of the singers, some of whom were quite new to a New York audience, contributing much to render it less effective than it might have been. With a few more performances, and, we would suggest, a more careful rehearsal, there may be an improvement. The opera will be given to plight in the Brooklyn Andemy, and will be repeated at Niblo's Saloon on Friday evening.

Court Calendar—This Day.

Surames Court—Caretyr—Part 1—Adjourned till Monday, January 9. Bart 2—Court opens at ten o'clock A. M.—Nes 800, 882, 878, 878, 40, 890, 909, 972, 846, 946, 672, 604, 604, 616, 623, 644, 640, 642, 644, 646.

Part 3—78 Duane street. Case on; no calendar.

Copar of Contson Friday.—In Term adjourned. General Term at deven o'clock A. M.

Burnerion Court.—Far', 1—Nos. 1743, 4649, 2503, 304614, 890, 4607, 247, 827, 4609, 042, 6487, 4611, 4625, 3646.

Part 3—78 Duane street. Case on; no calendar.

Copar of Contson Friday.—In Nos. 1743, 4649, 4657, 6769, 3050, 4800, 4208, 3614, 8782, 4632, 4636, 4637, 4611, 4641, 4625, 3646.

Part 3—78 Duane street. Case on; no calendar.

Copar of Contson Friday.—In Nos. 1743, 4649, 4657, 4611, 4626, 460, 4626, 4637, 4612, 4640, 4650, 3769, 3050, 4800, 4800, 4827, 4618, 4632, 4636, 4637, 4611, 4641, 4625, 3646. ITAMAN OPERA BUFFA. -The first perfor comance of the

incendiaries to burn our hexels. Greeley tried to make it pay through his paper; but the News has been a more corraistent peace organ than

THE SLEIGHING CARMIVAL

PLENDID TURNOUT YESTERDAY.

HOW TO ENJOY THE SPORT BEST.

Way They Do Russia

THE SKATING CARNIVAL

and the sleight glided along or rainer now the state their happy occupants without encountering the slight impediment, except when, through the carclessness the drivers, the little hillocks close in by the gut were attempted to be scaled, when, as not unfrequent happened, over went the sleights and down the foolish immates, foundering amid the resonw, sometimes getting severely braised, generally more frightened than hurt. Sleight has been depicted so often and so graphic in the columns of the Herats that it seems like regions and statement its description anew.

blee and upote sometimes on the come, finally, a dashing display mong the fashionables who see yet. This is a part of what testive term of "blass areas,"

helplessness. The massgement of the sies so simple that a few turns are master it. The sledge is a slight stool, about one foot high and three oushion on the top for the seat. The rides at the extermity, with his legs advanced bhis hands, protected by strong gloves, too on either side, but rather behind him. Thrudder, for the slightness the control of the side, but rather behind him. The rides of the slightness the slightness that the side of the slightness that the slightness that

## THE SKATING

Good Sport Expected To-Day-The Amusement in Brooklyn and Elsewhere-A. Base Ball Match on the Capitoline

Pond, &c.

The snow storm of Tuesday night spoiled the skating yesterday on the Fark ponds and on mearly all the other ponds in the city; and several thousand people who went a long distance to enjoy the sport had to return disappointed. The Fifth Ayenue pond, however, was in fine condition, and to-day that place will be crowded. Laborers were set to work early yesterday morning at the contract accepting and shovelling, and the ice was to Park pend scraping and shovelling, and the ice was to have been flooded at midnight. As the frost was rather